

MAR 11 2013

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING TO CONVENE THE FOOD SUSTAINABILITY
STANDARD TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP A FOOD SUSTAINABILITY
STANDARD FOR THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the most geographically isolated state
2 in the country and imports approximately ninety-two percent of
3 its food; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii's reliance on imported food places Hawaii
6 residents at risk of food shortages in the event of a natural
7 disaster, global economic disruption, or other external event
8 beyond the State's control that would prevent out-of-state food
9 shipments; and
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11 WHEREAS, according to the University of Hawaii College of
12 Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, replacing ten percent
13 of current food imports with locally grown food will create
14 approximately two thousand three hundred jobs and would keep
15 hundreds of millions of dollars circulating within Hawaii's
16 economy; and
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18 WHEREAS, locally grown food typically ensures fresher
19 produce with greater vitamin content and higher nutritional
20 value; and
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22 WHEREAS, establishing an increase in the production of
23 local food as a key state priority will diversify Hawaii's
24 economy, create new jobs, advance Hawaii's long term economic
25 stability, and increase Hawaii's food resiliency; and
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27 WHEREAS, a state-supported food sustainability standard is
28 the first step in developing a state plan for improving food
29 self-sufficiency and will help establish a strong state
30 commitment to improving food resiliency; now, therefore,
31

32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
33 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
34 that the Office of Planning is urged to convene the Food



1 Sustainability Standard Task Force for the purpose of creating a
2 food sustainability standard for the State; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Planning is urged
5 to select members for the Food Sustainability Standard Task
6 Force from the Department of Agriculture; Department of
7 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Land
8 and Natural Resources; University of Hawaii College of Tropical
9 Agriculture and Human Resources; Land Use Research Foundation of
10 Hawaii; Ulupono Initiative; Kanu Hawaii; Hawaii Farm Bureau
11 Federation; and any other agency or individual the Office of
12 Planning deems appropriate; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Food Sustainability
15 Standard Task Force is urged to consider existing programs,
16 research, and achievements in developing a feasible,
17 coordinated, and interdisciplinary food sustainability standard;
18 and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Food Sustainability
21 Standard Task Force is urged to consult with appropriate
22 private, nonprofit, community, and government stakeholders
23 regarding a food sustainability standard; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of Planning is urged
26 to submit a food sustainability standard developed by the Food
27 Sustainability Standard Task Force, along with proposed
28 legislation that would codify the food sustainability standard,
29 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
30 convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Office of
34 Planning; Director of Business, Economic Development, and
35 Tourism; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Chairperson of
36 the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Dean of the University
37 of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources;
38 Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Ulupono Initiative; Kanu
39 Hawaii; and Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation.
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